

State of Idaho  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

December 31, 1958

CREEL CENSUS SUMMARY  
Fish Management Area 1, (District #1)  
1958

Introduction

A summary of creel census data collected by conservation officers, other Department personnel, and, in several instances, by resort operators is summarized for the use of Department personnel. Some conservation officers indicated that they were interested in conclusions rather than a summary, therefore some of the results of the work are presented in Narrative form.

Lowland Lakes

In general, the trout season in Area 1 extends from May 1 to November 30 in lakes and June 4 to October 31 in streams. As has been the case for several years, May was the big fishing month on lowland lakes.

At Kelso Lake, 20 percent of the yearly fishing effort and 24 percent of the trout catch occurred during the first week of the season despite heavy fish planting from April through September. The opening day occurred during mid-week but was the biggest day of the year, with 6 percent of the pressure and 12 percent of the catch being recorded on that date. A tagging study at Spirit and Kelso Lakes indicated that 60 to 75 percent of catchable-size rainbow plants made just prior to opening day were caught. Fall planting of catchables showed poor returns.

Annual stocking of kokanee fry is necessary to maintain kokanee fishing in some lowland lakes. At Spirit Lake kokanee planting was curtailed from 1950 to 1952; very few were caught in 1953 and 1954. Planting was resumed in 1953 and the average catch in 1958 was the highest since 1950. Kokanee fishing was much improved in Coeur d'Alene Lake this year following a stepped-up planting program beginning in 1955.

This is the first year we have had a large sample of catch data from Coeur d'Alene Lake. Cutthroat made up 43 percent of the trout-kokanee catch, kokanee 37 percent, and rainbow 20 percent. Kokanee ranged from 10 to 16 inches in length, indicating more than one year class was being harvested. Spawning kokanee averaged 14.c inches.

Non-resident fishermen preferred the larger lakes, making up 77 percent of Priest Lake fishermen, 60 percent of Coeur d'Alene trout-kokanee fishermen, 50 percent at Spirit Lake, 45 percent at Pend Oreille, 28 percent at Fish (Blanchard) lake, and 25 percent of the 1911 fishermen checked at Kelso Lake.

### Mackinaw

In December, a postal survey of mackinaw and Dolly Varden fishermen indicated an average yearly catch of three of these fish in about 4½ days. It required just two days on the average to catch a mackinaw, which averaged 26 pounds in weight. Dolly Varden averaged 3.9 pounds. Some fishermen fished as many as 25 days for these large fish and took up to 18 macks and Dollies, although few fishermen fished more than six days for these fish. Most fishermen believed fishing for macks was as good as during other years, although the total catch was down somewhat.

### Regulations

Little evidence could be found to support a reduction in limits on mackinaw at Priest Lake.

Species composition is of special interest in tributaries of such lakes as Pend Oreille, Priest, Coeur d'Alene, and Hayden. Large Dolly Varden were the principal species taken in June in Grouse, Lightning, and probably several streams which were not checked, indicating some revision in regulations is advisable. Present regulations permit taking of cutthroat in nursery streams; in a few such streams, brook trout are the dominant species, however.

The quality of the trout fishing in the Upper Coeur d'Alene River, Teepee Creek, Independence Creek, and the North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene has remained as good or better since 1943 when much of the area was opened following many years of being closed to fishing.

The special regulation on supposedly overstocked mountain lakes containing brook trout, which permitted unlimited numbers but retained the weight limit, appeared to slightly increase the average number of trout in the catch. Only 2 of the 11 fishermen checked had more than 15 fish.

Lake treatment (see data for Kelso Lake) and increased stocking of catchable-size rainbow trout (see data for Hayden and Fernan Lakes) in recent years has generally resulted in increased fishing pressure and catch of trout. Catches of spiny rays and catch per fisherman usually show a decline, owing to greater interest in trout fishing and lower rate of catch of trout.

Prepared by: Paul Jeppson  
Area Fishery Biologist

# Creel Census Summary, Kootenai River Drainage, 1958

<u>Water</u>	<u>Number Fishermen</u>	<u>Rb</u>	<u>Brk</u>	<u>Ct</u>	<u>Ko</u>	<u>LMB</u>	<u>Fish Caught</u>	<u>Fish per Fisherman</u>
Streams:								
Moyie River	16	123	2				125	7.8
Deep Creek	4	9	36				45	11.2
Boulder Creek	5		13	15			28	5.6
Stream Total	25	132	51				198	7.9
Lakes:								
Hidden Lake	2		11				11	5.5
West Fork Lake	2			7			7	3.5
Brush Lake	3	9			9		18	6
Myrtle Lake	1			3			3	3
Cooks Lake	1		2				2	2
Roman Nose Lake #3	3			6			6	2
Robinson Lake	7					3	3	0.4
Bonner Lake	5	46					46	9.2
Perkins Lake	5	1	40				41	8.2
Callahan (Smith) Lake	5			1			1	0.2
Lake Total	34	56	53	17	9	3	138	4.1
Kootenai River Drainage Total	59	188	104	32	9	3	336	5.7

# Creel Census Summary, Pend Oreille Drainage, 1958

Water	Number Fishermen	Rb	Brk	Ct	Dv	Mac	Ko	Per	LMB	Bh	Cr	Fish Caught	Fish per Fisherman
Streams:													
Moore's Creek	3		21									21	7
Blue Creek	1	6	2	1								9	9
Kalispell Creek	1		2	1								3	3
Granite Creek (Priest)	2		7									7	3.5
Indian Creek	3			38								38	12.7
Soldier Creek	6		53	3								56	9.3
Gold Creek	1			8								8	8
Hoodoo Creek	15	11	32									43	2.9
Granite Creek (Pend Oreille)	5		3		6							9	1.8
Grouse Creek	11				9							9	0.8
Lightning Creek	10	2	10	28	4							44	4.4
Stream Total	58	19	130	79	19							247	4.3
Lakes:													
Wilson Lake	1		4									4	4.0
Two Mouth Lakes	2											0	0.0
Priest Lake	242			6	26	65	145					242	1.0
Upper Priest Lake	1			2	1		2					5	5.0
Blue Lake	23	24	73									97	4.2
Kelso Lake	1911	5688						638		4	1	6331	3.3
Granite Lake	21	40						1				41	2.0
Jewel Lake	62			5								5	0.1
Heath Pond	7	24										24	3.4
Dennick Lake	10			17								17	1.7
Bloom Lake	9		47									47	5.2
Gem Lake	5		15									15	3.0
Antelope Lake	18	175		38								213	11.8
Fish (Blanchard) Lake	39	142	13	9				6		12		182	4.9
Mirror Lake	41	187										187	4.6
Pend Oreille Lake	74	1		11			645					657	8.9
Spirit Lake	275	295	96	7			854	9	2		2	1265	4.6
Lake Total	2741	6576	248	95	27	65	1646	654	2	16	3	9332	3.4
Pend Oreille River Drainage Total	2799	6595	378	174	46	65	1646	654	2	16	3	9579	3.4

# Creel Census Summary, Spokane River Drainage, 1958

Water	Number Fishermen	Rb	Brk	Ct	Dv	Ko	Per	LMB	Bh	Cr	Sun	Fish Caught	Fish per Fisherman
Streams:													
Hayden Creek	11	7	47	14								68	6.2
Fernan (Kelly) Creek	3	30										30	10.0
Wolf Lodge Creek	6	6	6				8		8			28	4.7
Carlin Creek	6			42								42	7.0
Coeur d'Alene River	34	163	1	178								342	10.1
W. F. Pine Creek	2		3	9								12	6.0
N. F. Coeur d'Alene River	20	51	4	62								117	5.8
Leiberg Creek	2			17								17	8.5
Teepee Creek	15			86								86	5.7
Independence Creek	11			115								115	10.5
Big Elk Creek	2			16								16	8.0
St. Joe River	180	245	29	430	1	5	258	5				973	5.4
St. Maries River	11	4	1	23			4					32	2.9
Alder Creek	13		23	31								54	4.2
M. F. St. Maries River	5	5		22								27	5.4
Merry Creek	5			41								41	8.2
Gold Center Creek	4			40								40	10.0
Mica Creek	5		28	1								29	5.8
Marble Creek River	18	4		236								240	13.3
N. F. St. Joe River	13	8	5									13	1.0
Loop Creek	3		9	9								18	6.0
Bullion Creek	2		6	2								8	4.0
Sisters Creek	8			89								89	11.1
Heller Creek	3			25								25	8.3
Stream Total	382	523	162	1488	1	5	270	5	8			2462	6.4
Lakes:													
Hauser Lake	27	21	10				29	10			15	85	3.1
Twin Lakes	62	11	16	5			121	14	4	17		188	3.0
Hayden Lake (trout)	133	212	3	127								342	2.6
(spiny rays)	22						154	29		84		267	12.1
Coeur d'Alene Lakeb (trout-Kokanee)	186	72		153		131						356	1.9
(spiny rays)	35						431		4	4		439	12.5
Fernan Lake	108	40	1	15			611	12	24	20	90	813	7.5
Thompson Lake	3								60			60	20.0

### Creel Census Summary, Spokane River Drainage, 1958

<u>Water</u>	<u>Number Fishermen</u>	<u>Rb</u>	<u>Brk</u>	<u>Ct</u>	<u>Dv</u>	<u>Ko</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>LMB</u>	<u>Bh</u>	<u>Cr</u>	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Fish Caught</u>	<u>Fish per Fisherman</u>
Lakes: (cont.)													
Lower Glidden Lake	5		2									2	0.4
Upper Glidden Lake	8		38									38	4.8
Lone Lake	2		23									23	11.5
Stephens Lakes (2)	4		33									33	8.2
Crater Lake	4											0	0.0
Dismal Lake	11	58										58	5.3
Chatcolet Lake	28	2		47			25	1		5		80	2.9
Round Lake	9						72	5		42		119	13.2
Benewah Lake	26						131	19		78		228	8.8
Lake Total	673	416	126	347		131	1574	90	92	250	105	3131	4.7
Spokane River Drainage Total	1055	939	288	1835	1	136	1844	95	100	250	105	5593	5.3

### Creel Census Summary, By Drainage, Area 1, 1958

<u>Drainage</u>	<u>Number Fishermen</u>	<u>Rb</u>	<u>Brk</u>	<u>Ct</u>	<u>Dv</u>	<u>Mac</u>	<u>Ko</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>LMB</u>	<u>Bh</u>	<u>Cr</u>	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Fish Caught</u>	<u>Fish per Fisherman</u>
Kootenai River	59	188	104	32			9		3				336	5.7
Pend Oreille River	2799	6595	378	174	46	65	1646	654	2	16	3		9579	3.4
Spokane River	1055	939	288	1835	1		136	1844	95	100	250	105	5593	5.3
Total	3913	7722	770	2041	47	65	1791	2498	100	116	253	105	15,508	4.0

# Creel Census Summary, Spirit, Kelso, Hayden and Fernan Lakes by Years

	<u>Year</u>	<u>Number Fishermen</u>	<u>Rb</u>	<u>Brk</u>	<u>Ct</u>	<u>Ko</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>LM B</u>	<u>Bh</u>	<u>Cr</u>	<u>Uncl.</u>	<u>Fish Caught</u>	<u>Fish per Fisherman</u>
Spirit Lake:	1949	484	44	112	23	3801	26					4006	8.3
	1950	515	48	169	7	3019	18					3261	6.3
	1951	370	90	118	36	1382						1626	4.4
	1952	1360	89	88	12	1125						1314	1.0
	1954	48	7	9	2	75						93	1.9
	1955	288	58	195	52	473		20			15	813	2.8
	1958	275	295	96	7	854	9	2		2		1265	4.6
Kelso Lake:	1951	807	707	2	25		1227	252		251	70	2534	3.1
	1952	201	490	28	14						803	1335	6.6
	1954	988	791		6		1422	184	5	161	14	2583	2.6
	1955	(lake closed following treatment)											
	1956	1308	1919									1919	1.5
	1957	1894	2841				156					2997	1.6
	1958	1911	5688				638		4	1		6331	3.3
Hayden Lake:						<u>WF</u>							
	1948	12				188	4					192	16.0
	1950	61			5	425	142	18		2		592	9.7
	1954	96	139		63		106	11		23		342	3.6
	1955	16	5		2		109		2	25		143	8.9
	1957	16	1				100		8	45		154	9.6
	1958	155	212	3	127		154	29		84		609	3.9
Fernan Lake											<u>Sun</u>		
	1948	41					768	15	20		158	961	23.4
	1949	38					266	27	4	5	115	417	11.0
	1950	61			4		712			6	61	783	12.8
	1953	17					200	8		3		211	12.4
	1954	133	2		2		836	24	30	154	401	1449	10.9
	1955	124			1		1304	13	6	82	99	1505	12.1
	1956	24					147	1		69	79	296	12.3
	1957	73	1				687	5	7	45	258	1003	13.7
	1958	108	40	1	15		611	12	24	20	90	813	7.5